

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 073243
ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 INR-10 DODE-00 PM-05 SSO-00
HA-05 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
H-01 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 /067 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:STESCUDERO/ATP

APPROVED BY IO:GBHELMAN

AF/I:WCAROLL

INR:MR. PETERSON

IO/UNP:TNILES

DOD/ISA:GPARKER

PM/SAS:RSMITH

AF/E:PSMITH

AF/S:JDAVIDOW

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 073243

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV, RH

SUBJECT:ZAMBIAN/RHODESIA: ALLEGED PRESENCE OF CHINOOKS
IN RHODESIA

REFERENCE: LUSAKA 879

1. IN FURTHER CHECKING RE SALES OF CH-47 "CHINOOK"
HELICOPTER, WE HAVE DETERMINED THAT US HAS ALSO PROVIDED
THIS AIRCRAFT TO TWO COUNTRIES IN ADDITION TO VIETNAM AND
SEVEN OTHER COUNTRIES MENTIONED IN STATE 64470 THROUGH MAP
OR FMS, BUT THIS DOES NOT AFFECT OUR EARLIER STATEMENT
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THAT US HAS NEVER SOLD, TRANSFERRED OR PERMITTED TRANSFER
OF CH-47 TO ANY SOUTHERN AFRICAN COUNTRY INCLUDING SOUTH
AFRICA. WE KNOW OF NO SUCH SALES OR TRANSFERS TO THE
SMITH REGIME OR SOUTH AFRICA AND WOULD NOT RPT NOT HAVE
APPROVED A REQUEST FOR SUCH A SALE OR TRANSFER HAD WE
RECEIVED ONE.

2. VIETNAM: WHEN US FORCES EVACUATED VIETNAM SOME 70 CHINOOKS WERE LEFT IN COUNTRY, MANY OF WHICH HAD BEEN PROPERTY OF SOUTH VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT. WE BELIEVE THAT ABOUT 20 OF THESE WERE OPERATIONAL AS OF ONE YEAR AGO. THERE HAVE BEEN SOME REPORTS THAT SRV WAS CONSIDERING SALE OF SOME OF THE US MILITARY EQUIPMENT WHICH THEY ACQUIRED WITH FALL OF SAIGON BUT WE HAVE NO INFORMATION THAT ANY OF THESE RESULTED IN SALES OF CHINOOKS OR THAT ANYTHING WHICH VIETNAMESE MAY HAVE SOLD HAS FOUND ITS WAY TO RHODESIA.

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Message Attributes

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